

Puget Sound Stormwater Work Group

**What we've accomplished since
November and an overview of
our key recommendations**

June 8, 2010

Jim Simmonds and Karen Dinicola

A Brief Update on the SWG

- **Who is the Stormwater Work Group?**
- **Why do we exist?**
- **What have we done so far?**
- **How best to read our report**
- **What are we recommending?**
- **Next Steps**

Part of Ecosystem Monitoring Program

- **Part of the Partnership's effort to coordinate and integrate ecosystem monitoring and assessment**
- **One of 3-5 initial topical work groups**
- **Each work group focuses on one aspect of ecosystem monitoring**
- **All work groups coordinated by the ecosystem monitoring program**

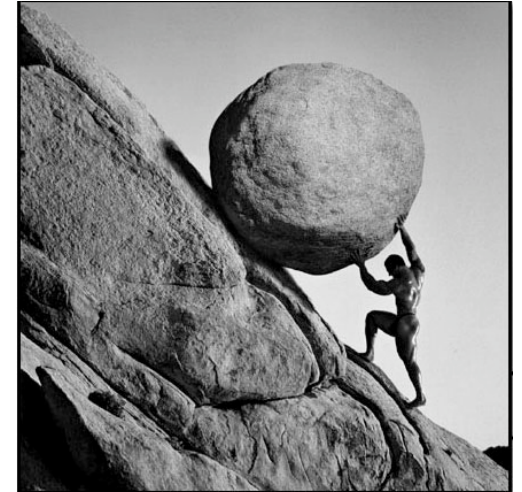
How We Are Organized

- **A caucus-based committee with broad representation**
 - **Federal agencies, state agencies, local jurisdictions, environmental groups, business, agriculture, ports, tribes**
- **Funded and staffed by Department of Ecology**

Our Current Task

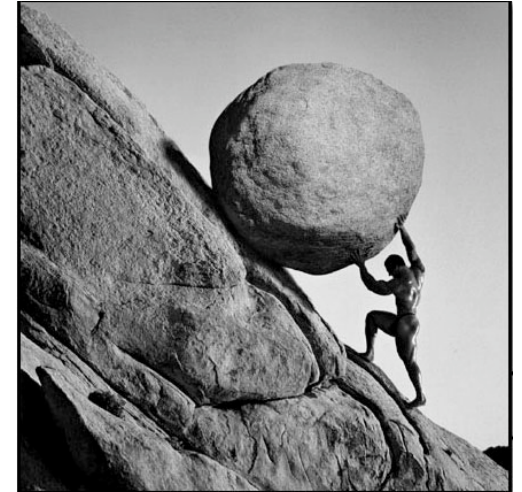
- **By June 2010 recommend a regional coordinated stormwater monitoring and assessment strategy including:**
 - 1. A scientific framework for monitoring stormwater impacts and management effectiveness**
 - 2. An implementation plan recommending roles and responsibilities, including municipal NPDES stormwater permit requirements**

What Have We Done in the Last Six Months?



- Released draft scientific framework: Nov 4, 2009
- Public workshop: Nov 10, 2009
- Received more than 800 stakeholder comments on the draft document
- Received five formal peer reviews on the draft document

What Have We Done in the Last Six Months?



- **Discussed comments and revised scientific framework**
- **Developed draft implementation plan**
- **Released new document: April 30, 2010**
- **Public workshop: May 19, 2010**
- **Comment period ended: May 28, 2010**

REVISED DRAFT

**Stormwater Monitoring and
Assessment Strategy for the
Puget Sound Region,
Volume 1: Scientific Framework
Volume 2: Implementation Plan**

Created and overseen by:

The Puget Sound Stormwater Work Group
(members listed on the following page)

With contributions from:

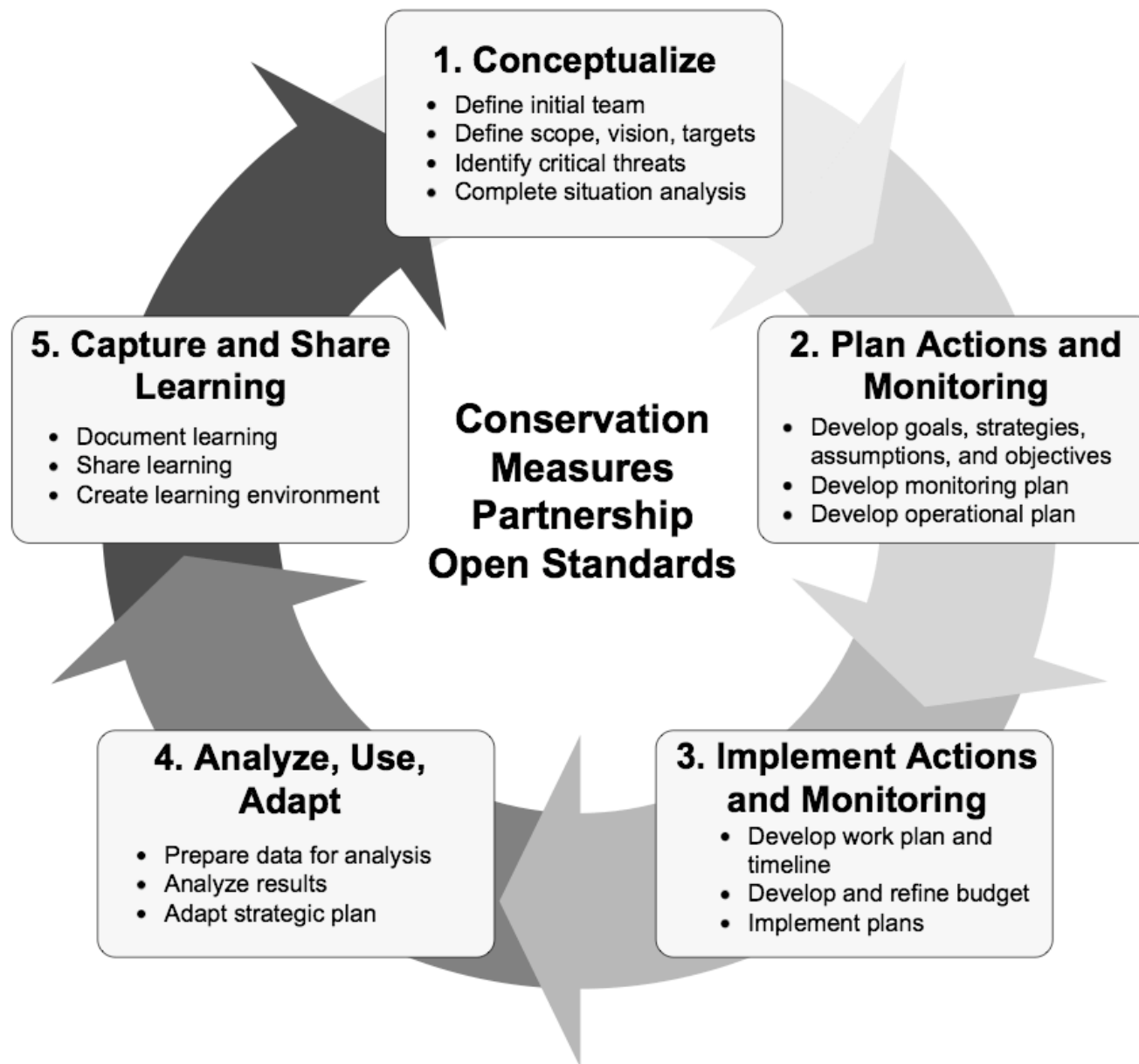
Derek Booth, Stillwater Sciences
Chad Brown, WA Dept. of Ecology
Scott Collyard, WA Dept. of Ecology
Ken Dzinbal, WA Recreation and Conservation Office
George Fowler, Independent Consultant
Dennis Helsel, Practical Stats
Joan Lee, Parametrix Consultants
John Lenth, Herrera Environmental Consultants
Julie Lowe, WA Dept. of Ecology
Joy Michaud, Herrera Environmental Consultants
Mike Milne, Brown and Caldwell
Dale Norton, WA Dept. of Ecology
Stephen Ralph, Stillwater Sciences
Gary Turney, U.S. Geological Survey, retired
Phyllis Varner, City of Bellevue
Jim West, WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

April 30, 2010

How to Read Our Report



- **Key Recommendations:**
voted on and approved by entire
Stormwater Work Group
- **Main Document:** prepared by subgroups
 - Volume 1 = Scientific Framework
 - Volume 2 = Implementation Plan
- **Appendices:** additional detail and
examples



The Adaptive Management Cycle (Open Standards Conservation 2007)

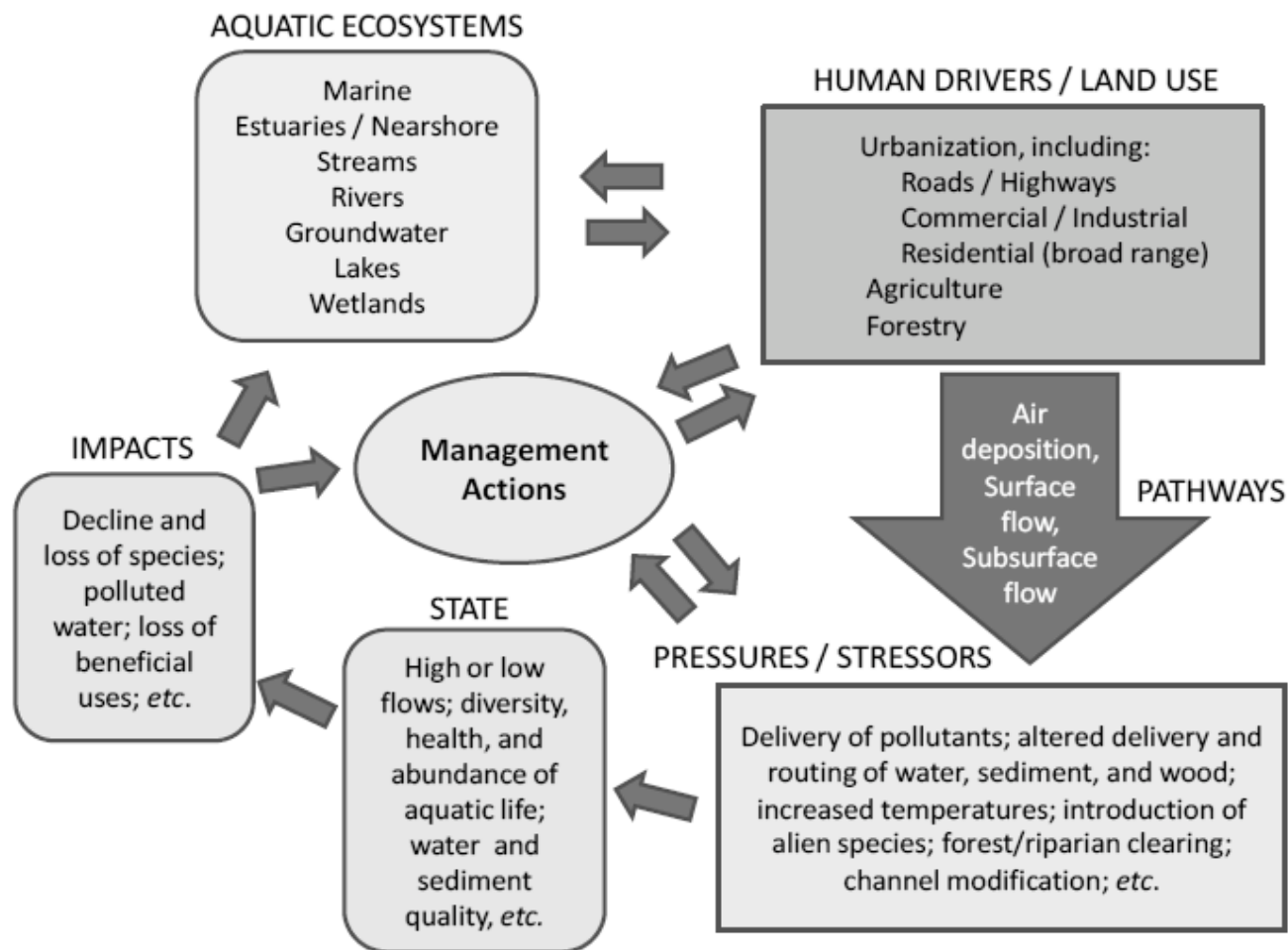


Figure 2. Conceptual Driver-Pressure-State-Impact-Response (DPSIR) model showing the complex interactions of land use and management actions on stressors impacting biological endpoints and beneficial uses in receiving waters and aquatic ecosystems.

Key Recommendations



- **Regional Implementation Approach**
 - Prioritization, coordination, data management system, analysis, and pay-in option to manage collective funds
- **Status and Trends**
 - Small streams and marine nearshore monitoring
- **Source Identification & Diagnostic Monitoring**
 - WRIA-based prioritization and monitoring of corrective actions
- **Effectiveness Studies**
 - Solicit and fund studies on priority topics

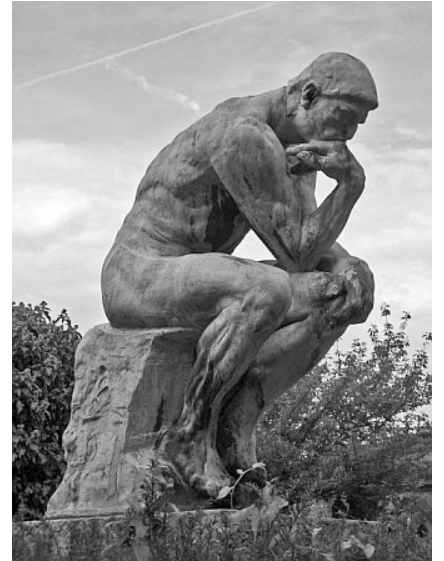
Cost Concerns



- **How to fairly allocate costs**
 - **Federal, state, local, private, other**
 - **Among the municipal stormwater permittees**
- **Affordability given economic conditions**
- **Current monitoring is expensive**
- **Ensure accountability for pay-in option**
- **Ensure sustainability of other funds**

Some Issues to Ponder

- **Pollution Control Hearing Board ruled that Ecology can require monitoring**
- **~80 jurisdictions will have monitoring in the next permit**
- **Other permits/permittees not yet addressed**
- **Fear of data due to possible future liabilities**
- **Public and political support**
- **Link between policy and science**
- **Maintaining and expanding cooperation**



Work Group's Next Steps

- **Final recommendation report by June 30**
- **Keep working**
 - **Coordinate with others**
 - **Refine study designs & work processes**
 - **Refine cost and cost sharing issues**
 - **Set up new administrative entity**
 - **Expand to be more inclusive**

